

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 MMO-01 SS-15 HA-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 IO-13 /081 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:MDION:MR
APPROVED BY ARA: AMB. STEDMAN
ARA:MR. BUSHNELL
USOAS:AMB. MCGEE

-----120454 220054Z /75

P R 212243Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY QUITO
INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 304288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT:HOW TO DEAL WITH URUGUAY'S OFFER TO HOLD THE VIII
OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. SUMMARY: THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE OAS WILL MEET
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DECEMBER 28 TO CONSIDER SURPRISE OFFER FROM URUGUAY TO
HOLD VIII OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MONTEVIDEO IN MAY 1978.
MAJORITY OF LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS MAY BE READY TO
SUPPORT THE OFFER BUT TWO-THIRDS VOTE IS REQUIRED TO SET GA
SITE. IF AT DECEMBER 28 MEETING PANAMANIAN MOTION TO
POSTPONE VOTE UNTIL MID-JANUARY SUCCEEDS, GOVERNMENTS WILL
HAVE TWO WEEKS TO STUDY IMPLICATIONS OF OFFER BY

URUGUAY, WHOSE STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEFIANCE OF INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC) POSES SEVERE TEST FOR OAS. USG IS GIVING CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO POSITION IT WILL TAKE AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS SOONEST BEFORE ENTERING INTO CONSULTATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS IN CAPITALS AND AT OAS. END SUMMARY.

2. VII OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT GRENADA VOTED TO REMOVE CHARTER REQUIREMENT THAT ANNUAL ASSEMBLIES TAKE PLACE BEFORE END OF SECOND QUARTER OF EACH YEAR, I.E. BY JUNE 30TH, AND INSTRUCTED THE PERMANENT COUNCIL TO SET DATE FOR VIII OASGA IN CONFORMITY WITH NEW BUDGET CYCLE OF ORGANIZATION. BEGINNING JAN. 1, 1978, FISCAL AND CALENDAR

YEARS OF OAS WILL COINCIDE. SEVENTH GA ALSO ACCEPTED OFFER OF BOLIVIA TO HOST GA IN 1978.

3. DESPITE REPORT OF WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY ARGENTINE ANBASSADOR CARASALES, PERMANENT COUNCIL VOTED ON NOVEMBER 23 TO REJECT HIS RECOMMENDATION THAT NEXT REGULAR GA BE HELD IN NOVEMBER 1978 AND INSTEAD SET DATE OF NEXT MAY 30. JUST BEFORE VOTE, BOLIVIA ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL OF ITS INVITATION AND CITED 1978 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AS REASON. PARAGUAY AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WERE BOTH KNOWN TO BE CONSIDERING AN INVITATION BUT WHEN NEITHER CAME FORWARD, WASHINGTON VENUE SEEMED ASSURED. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. DURING SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OAS BUDGET LAST WEEK, US AND PANAMANIAN DELEGATIONS ATTEMPTED TO REOPEN CONSIDERATION OF FALL DATE ON GROUNDS GA SCHEDULE NEEDED TO BE ADJUSTED TO BUDGET CYCLE. NO OTHER DELEGATION SUPPORTED EFFORT BUT ALL CONCURRED PERMANENT COUNCIL SHOULD MEET SOON TO REVIEW DECISION.

5. OVER LAST WEEKEND, AMBASSADOR CARASALES INFORMED US THAT URUGUAY WOULD SOON OFFER TO HOST VIII GA. HE SAID URUGUAY HAD LINED UP BROAD SUPPORT AMONG LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS. SEVERAL AMBASSADORS HAVE TOLD US THEY WILL SUPPORT URUGUAYAN INVITATION, NOTING VARIETY OF FACTORS INCLUDING PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION, FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION AND JUXTAPOSITION WITH WORLD CUP SOCCER MATCH IN BUENOS AIRES.

6. URUGUAY'S OFFER IS LIKELY TO REOPEN CONTENTIOUS DEBATE IN THE OAS AT A TIME WHEN THE GRENADA RESOLUTIONS STRENGTHENING THE IAHRC ARE BEING FULFILLED. URUGUAY HAS REFUSED TO DEAL WITH THE IAHRC AND HAS LED THE EFFORT TO DEPICT IT AS BIASED AND TO DIVORCE IT FROM THE REST OF

THE OAS. AMBASSADOR PEZZUL 'S CABLE--REPATED TO ARA

POSTS--LAYS BARE THE GOU'S STRATEGY AND ARGUES STRONGLY
FOR A CONCERTED MULTILATERAL EFFORT TO EVOKE A PROMISE
FROM THE GOU TO ADMIT THE IAHRC AS THE PRICE OF HOLDING
THE VIII OASGA.

7. POSITION USG WILL TAKE IS UNDER STUDY RIGHT NOW. WE
WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR CONSIDERED VIEWS, WITHOUT
CONSULTING HOST GOVERNMENTS, MOST OF WHOM SUPPORTED THE
KEY HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS AT GRENADA, ON HOW TO DEAL
WITH URUGUAY'S OFFER. WE WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO KNOW
HOW YOU THINK HOST GOVERNMENT WOULD RESPOND TO A STRONG
EFFORT BY USG TO BLOCK URUGUAY'S BID, EITHER BY ELICITING
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INVITATION FROM ANOTHER OAS GOVERNMENT WITH A BETTER
HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD OR BY DENYING GOU TWO-THIRDS VOTE
NEEDED, CAUSING SITE TO REVERT TO WASHINGTON. VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

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DRAFTED BY: USOAS:MDION

APPROVED BY: ARA:AMB. STEDMAN

USOAS:AMB MCGEE

ARA:MR. BUSHNELL

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P 230127Z DEC 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 304288 ACTIONASUNCION BOGOTA BRIDGETOWN
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DEC 21

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Errors: N/A
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 155480
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HOW TO DEAL WITH URUGUAY'S OFFER TO HOLD THE VIII OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TAGS: PORG, UY, OAS
To: ASUNCION BOGOTA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/073549fe-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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